

## **BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL**

### **FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE**

There was a special meeting of the above referenced subcommittee held on Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. in Conference Room #5, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Committee members present were: Mayor Schulman (left at 6:00 p.m.), Deputy Mayor Gamble, Councilors DeLorenzo, Neuwirth (left at 6:25 p.m.), Rivers, Washington (left at 6:25 p.m.) and Seldon

Absent were: Councilors Hypolite and Merritt

Also present were: William Hogan, Director of Finance, Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager, Sharron Howe, Assistant to the Town Manager, David Melesko, Director of Leisure Services, Yvette Huyghue-Pannell, Director of Senior Services, Thom Hooper, Director of Planning, Chief Paul Hammick, Scott Sharlow, Director of Information Technology, Jonathan Thiesse, Town Engineer and India Rodgers, Clerk of Council

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

### **Review of proposed Capital Improvement Project (CIP) requests for FY 2014/2015**

Mr. Philip K. Schenck, Jr. gave a brief description of the goals for presenting proposed Capital Improvement Project requests from each of the respective departments: Leisure Services, Engineering, Police, Information Technology, Senior Services and the Wintonbury Hills Golf Course.

### **LEISURE SERVICES**

Mr. David Melesko, Director of Leisure Services reported detailed information regarding Leisure Services projects:

- Part II – Rockwell Avenue Basketball Court Lighting
  - \$45,000 allocated in last year's budget and \$45,000 is being requesting for FY 14/15 in order to finalize the installation of lighting on the basketball courts.
- Mobile Stage – Cost projected of \$150,000. This stage would be utilized at least 10-12 per year. It may also be used for other purposes serving local community organizations i.e. Duncaster.

Mayor Schulman asked about the actual setup and location of a stage the town previously owned. Mr. Melesko reported that the location of that stage is unknown.

Councilor Seldon inquired about what items are included in the quoted price. This price includes all freight charges, training and safety rails.

Councilor Washington asked about the actual size of the mobile stage and fitting for additional lighting.

- Park School Complex Tennis Courts & Lighting is heavily utilized by the high school students for competition during the tennis season. If replaced, these courts are guaranteed for use over the next 20 years. When the courts were initially design to flood for an ice skating rink. Mr. Melesko is awaiting the Master Parks Plan to determine the amount of courts needed in the town's footprint.

## **ENGINEERING**

Mr. Jonathan Thiesse presented the following Engineering Capital Improvement projects for consideration:

- Mountain Avenue Bridge Replacement – This bridge replacement under Mountain Avenue near Intersection with Duncaster Road. State grant funding has been secured under the Local Bridge Program.
- Granby Street Pavement – This road has been rated in poor condition. The funding source will be from the State Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program. The Town's financial commitment is approximately \$225,000.
- Woodland Avenue – This road will be rehabilitated and paved from south of Peters Road to Blue Hills Avenue. The pavement on this stretch of Woodland Avenue has been rated in poor condition. Council members expressed concern about paving for the entire length of Woodland Avenue. The area that has been approved for state funding does not address residential complaints.
- Bloomfield Greenway – The construction of this multi-use trail from Day Hill Road at the Windsor town line to S.R. 189 east of Tariffville Gorge. This project represents the first section of the Greenway proposed for construction. Construction costs are in need for budgeting FY 2014/2015.
- Filley Park Restoration – This project includes dredging the pond and stream, relace pond edging, replacement of bridge, rehabilitation of the parking lot, streetscape improvements, island and trail rehab enhancement, natural playground, dam relocation and stream restoration.

Councilor Washington inquired about additional state funding for various phases of the project. The total estimated cost for construction of \$670,000 includes \$200,000 previously awarded by the State. The town will continue to pursue state and federal grants as they become available.

- Critical Drainage – The evaluation and upgrade for storm drainage system in locations of know critical areas, including building flooding and major street flooding. The project request for FY 2014/2015 is for the initial engineering evaluation and preliminary concept work (\$100,000)

Councilor DeLorenzo inquired about the frequency of flooding in those critical areas around town. It was noted that the last Drainage Study was completed in 1977. This initial phase of the project will develop a foundation for an update of this study.

- Town Green Renovations – This area in town is in need of revitalization to fulfill its role to rejuvenate downtown aesthetics consistent with the Plan of Development for the Town Center. Estimated cost for the FY 2014/2015 budget season is approximately \$45,000.

Once the concept design plan has been completed, there will be a public hearing to seek input along with a stakeholders meeting for businesses in the Town Center.

Mr. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager stated that this area is vital in strengthening Economic Development.

Councilor Rivers inquired about utilizing the courtyard area at Wintonbury Mall in conjunction with a stage for spring and summer concerts.

## **POLICE**

Chief Paul Hammick presented the following Capital Improvement Projects for consideration:

- Vehicle Replacements – The department currently operates a total fleet inventory of 39 vehicles including the Bloomfield Volunteer Ambulance (BVA). The inventory consists of many vehicles in very poor conditions with high mileage and wear and tear with routine maintenance concerns. The department has requested \$85,000 for the purchase of three Administrative/Support vehicles and equipment to replace higher mileage vehicles.

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

Mr. Scott Sharlow, Director of Information Technology gave a brief overview of the issues and current concerns with the technical infrastructure of the town. Mr. Sharlow outlined several areas for improvements:

- To develop a needs assessment plan
- Network improvements and update of firewall

- Wireless options for equipment
- Implementation of disaster strategies

Councilor Seldon inquired about equipment used by town employees. It was noted that most employees utilize a desktop for daily work. However, several Android devices are utilized more than laptop.

Overall, the current computer system and servers are not up to date with the latest technology. Issues have been deferred using selective maintenance for repairs.

### **SENIOR SERVICES**

Mrs. Yvette Huyghue-Pannell, Director of Senior Services is requesting vehicle replacements. The following request was submitted for the FY 2014/2015 Capital Improvement Project budget:

- 6-passenger vehicle - \$48,825
- 14-passenger vehicle - \$76,075
- 24-passenger vehicle - \$107,810

Totaling: \$232,710

### **WINTONBURY HILLS GOLF COURSE**

Mr. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager stated that \$50,000 has been reserved to address additional capital needs at the golf course. These funds would be the beginning of analyzing and expanding space for the Tap Inn restaurant. This expansion could potentially generate income for the town by enclosing the patio and providing a venue to large gatherings for banquet and realigning the entrance way to the clubhouse/restaurant.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Councilor DeLorenzo, seconded by Councilor Rivers to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m.